

Exhibit 41

Excerpts of deposition of Nathan Sullivan
(November 17, 2023)

In the Matter Of:
THE SATANIC TEMPLE
VS
NEWSWEEK DIGITAL

NATHAN SULLIVAN

November 17, 2023



Moburg Reporting
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Federal Way, WA 98003
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November 17, 2023

THE SATANIC TEMPLE vs NEWSWEEK DIGITAL

Nathan Sullivan

1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

2 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

3 -----
4 THE SATANIC TEMPLE, INC.,)
5 Plaintiff,)
6 vs.) NO. 1:22-CV-01343-MKV
7 NEWSWEEK DIGITAL, LLC,)
8 Defendant.)
9 -----

10 Videotaped Deposition Upon Oral Examination

11 of

12 NATHAN SULLIVAN
13 -----

14 Friday, November 17, 2023

15 11:41 a.m.

16 7900 Southeast 28th Street

17 Mercer Island, Washington
18
19
20
21
22

23 Cheryl Macdonald, CRR, RMR
24 Court Reporter
25 License No. 2498

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1 A P P E A R A N C E S

2

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7	EXHIBITS MARKED	PAGE
8	(No exhibits marked.)	
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1 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Good afternoon. Good
2 late morning. We are now on the record. This is the
3 deposition of Nathan Sullivan. This deposition is
4 being recorded the 17th day of November 2023, and the
5 time is now 11:41 a.m. Counsel and all present,
6 please identify yourselves for the record, and then
7 the witness may be sworn in.

8 MR. KEZHAYA: This is Matt Kezhaya. I'm
9 joined by Sonia Kezhaya. Both of us are appearing on
10 behalf of the plaintiff.

11 MS. TESORIERO: This is Sara Tesoriero,
12 appearing on behalf of the defendant Newsweek.

13 MR. ROLLER: Jeremy Roller for the nonparty
14 witness Nathan Sullivan.

15 NATHAN SULLIVAN, the witness herein, having been
16 placed under oath by the
17 Certified Court Reporter,
deposed and said as follows:

18 MS. TESORIERO: We're going to make the
19 same stipulation about one objection can apply to both
20 witness counsel and defense counsel.

21 MR. KEZHAYA: Yes.

22 MR. ROLLER: And we also intend to review
23 and designate anything confidential.

24 MR. KEZHAYA: So stipulated. Any other
25 pre-proceeding matters?

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1 MS. TESORIERO: No.

2

3

EXAMINATION

4 BY MR. KEZHAYA:

5 Q. Please state your name for the record.

6 A. Nathan Sullivan.

7 Q. And Nathan, are you familiar with the
8 Newsweek article for which we are here today?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Are you familiar with the particular
11 statement that we are here today?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Okay. And just for sake of definitions,
14 the statement is, "Accounts of sexual abuse being
15 covered up in ways that were more than anecdotal." Do
16 you agree with that understanding?

17 MR. ROLLER: Object to the form, but you
18 can answer.

19 A. I agree with that statement being relevant
20 here.

21 Q. Okay. Perfect. Did you personally write
22 that statement?

23 A. No.

24 Q. Did a person who goes by the pseudonym Jinx
25 Strange write that statement?

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1 A. To my recollection, he is the one that
2 quote is attributed to.

3 Q. Okay. And to put a finer point on it, Jinx
4 Strange is a pseudonym; correct?

5 A. As far as I'm aware, yes.

6 Q. Did you personally put Julia Duin in touch
7 with Jinx Strange?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Okay. Was that done in writing or was that
10 done orally?

11 A. To my recollection, it was done in writing.

12 Q. Okay. How was this writing transmitted?

13 A. To my recollection, over -- a direct
14 message over Twitter, now X.

15 Q. Was this message conveyed through the
16 QueerSatanic Twitter handle?

17 A. I believe so.

18 Q. And to be clear, it was not transmitted
19 through a personal Twitter handle of yours; correct?

20 A. Correct.

21 Q. The statement at issue asserts covered up
22 sexual abuse. How would you define sexual abuse?

23 MS. TESORIERO: Objection to form.

24 Q. Unless told otherwise, please answer the
25 question.

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1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Okay. In the clip, I believe it was you
3 who indicated that "We were expelled for being
4 witnesses to an ethics complaint."

5 A. Mm-hmm.

6 Q. Is that a fair characterization of the
7 clip?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. In terms of the ethics complaint, prior
10 testimony has suggested that the ethics complaint was
11 an e-mail dated in or around March of 2020. Is that
12 something that you dispute?

13 A. I do not dispute that.

14 Q. And the subject matter of the ethics
15 complaint were facts that took place in 2017. Do you
16 agree with that?

17 A. I was not party to those -- to those
18 events. The exact timetable, I'm not really clear on.

19 Q. So the subject matter of that ethics
20 complaint you did not personally see; is that correct?

21 MS. TESORIERO: Objection to form.

22 A. Right.

23 Q. Do you know --

24 THE REPORTER: I'm sorry. I don't know if
25 I missed the answer.

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1 I only remember pseudonymously. And by that time --
2 sorry -- by the time of my expulsion, I don't believe
3 any of them were still there. I'm not sure if that
4 answers your question.

5 Q. It -- adequately for my purposes. Were you
6 ever a chapter head of TST Washington?

7 A. No.

8 MR. ROLLER: Matt, this is kind of getting
9 beyond the scope of the deposition that was ordered.

10 MR. KEZHAYA: Yeah. I'm trying to
11 establish a timeline here. I'm actually a little bit
12 surprised that he co-founded the chapter. I didn't
13 know that. So I'm just trying to figure out the
14 timeline.

15 Q. So just to try to expedite the matters. So
16 you cofound the chapter 2014. The sexual harassment
17 which underpins this March 2020 ethics complaint, the
18 sexual harassment took place in 2017/2018; correct?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And you personally did not see any of the
21 sexual harassment; correct?

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. And if I remember correctly, you said that
24 you didn't really talk to the subject of the sexual
25 harassment; is that correct?

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1 A. Correct.

2 Q. The perpetrator of the sexual harassment,
3 did you talk to that person?

4 A. About those events, no.

5 Q. In March of 2020, I recall from earlier
6 testimony that the subject of the sexual harassment
7 was not a member; is that correct?

8 A. Correct.

9 Q. Was -- well, let's just establish it. Was
10 John Milton the pseudonym of the perpetrator of the
11 sexual harassment alleged?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Was John Milton a member in March of 2020?

14 A. I do not believe so, no.

15 Q. Going back to your definition of sexual
16 abuse, have you personally seen any sexual abuse
17 occurring within The Satanic Temple?

18 A. No.

19 Q. Have you personally received -- strike
20 that.

21 Have you personally seen any cover-up of
22 sexual abuse within The Satanic Temple?

23 MS. TESORIERO: Objection to form.

24 A. Indirectly.

25 Q. No. Directly. I'm asking you directly.

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1 C E R T I F I C A T E

2

3 STATE OF WASHINGTON)

4) ss.

5 COUNTY OF KING)

6

7 I, the undersigned Washington Certified Court
8 Reporter, pursuant to RCW 5.28.010, authorized to
9 administer oaths and affirmations in and for the State
10 of Washington, do hereby certify:

11 That the annexed and foregoing deposition
12 consisting of Page 1 through 26 was taken
13 stenographically before me and reduced to a typed
14 format under my direction;

15 I further certify that according to CR 30(e) the
16 witness was given the opportunity to examine, read and
17 sign after the same was transcribed, unless indicated
18 in the record that the review was waived;

19 I further certify that all objections made at the
20 time of said examination to my qualifications or the
21 manner of taking the deposition, or to the conduct of
22 any party, have been noted by me upon said deposition;

23 I further certify that I am not a relative or
24 employee of any such attorney or counsel, and that I
25 am not financially interested in said action or the

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1 outcome thereof;

2 I further certify that the witness before
3 examination was by me duly sworn to testify to the
4 truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth;

5 I further certify that the deposition, as
6 transcribed, is a full, true and correct transcript of
7 the testimony, including questions and answers, and
8 all objections, motions, and exceptions of counsel
9 made and taken at the time of foregoing examination
10 and was prepared pursuant to Washington Administrative
11 Code 308-14-135, the transcript preparation format
12 guideline;

13 I further certify that I am sealing the
14 deposition in an envelope with the title of the above
15 cause and the name of the witness visible, and I am
16 delivering the same to the appropriate authority;

17

18 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand,
19 and affixed my official seal this 30th day of
20 NOvember 2023.

21

22

Cheryl Macdonald, CCR

23

Washington State Certified

24

Court Reporter

25

License No. 2498

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D E C L A R A T I O N

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I declare under penalty of perjury that I
have read my within deposition, and the same is true
and accurate, save and except for changes and/or
corrections, if any, as indicated by me on the
correction sheet hereof.

NATHAN SULLIVAN

Dated this _____ day of _____,
2023.

CHERYL MACDONALD, Court Reporter

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LINE

CORRECTION AND REASON

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(SIGNATURE)

24

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REPORTER: CHERYL MACDONALD

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November 30, 2023

7

8

9

IN RE: The Satanic Temple v. Newsweek

10

DEPOSITION(S) OF: Nathan Sullivan

11

DATE OF DEPOSITION: November 17, 2023

12

13

A copy of the deposition transcript of the above-named
is provided via E-transcript. Please have the
deponent read the deposition, sign the correction
sheet and declaration. The signed correction sheet
and declaration should then, within 30 (thirty) days,
be forwarded to:

14

15

16

17

18

19

CHERYL MACDONALD

20

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Federal Way, Washington 98003

22

who will then enclose them in the original transcript,
seal it, and forward it to Mr. Kezhaya for retention
until the time of trial.

23

24

If you have any questions, feel free to contact
me at the number listed above.

25

Sincerely,

26

27

CHERYL MACDONALD, CCR

28

CC: S. Tesoriero M. Kezhaya

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Certification of Court Rule and WAC Compliance

2

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3

4 I, VALERIE SEATON, am an authorized representative of
 5 MOBURG REPORTING and do hereby, under penalty of perjury,
 6 certify that Moburg Reporting and all court reporters
 7 providing services in the above-captioned case on MOBURG
 8 REPORTING'S behalf will fully comply with all applicable
 9 rules and regulations governing the provision of court
 10 reporting services, including, where applicable,
 11 Washington Superior Court Rule 28(c)-(e) and WAC
 12 308-14-130(1).*

8

11/30/23

9

10 Valerie L. Seaton
 11 President
 12 Moburg Reporting

Date

11

12 *28(c) Disqualification for Interest. No deposition
 13 shall be taken before a person who is a relative or
 14 employee or attorney or counsel of any of the parties, or
 15 is a relative or employee of such attorney or counsel, or
 16 is financially interested in the action.

17 28(d) Equal Terms Required. Any arrangement concerning
 18 court reporting services or fees in a case shall be
 19 offered to all parties on equal terms. This rule applies
 20 to any arrangement or agreement between the person before
 21 whom a deposition is taken or a court reporting firm,
 22 consortium, or other organization providing a court
 23 reporter, and any party or any person arranging or paying
 24 for court reporting services in the case, including any
 25 attorney, law firm, person or entity with a financial
 interest in the outcome of the litigation, or person or
 entity paying for court reporting services in the case.

20 28(e) Final Certification of the Transcript. The court
 21 reporter reporting a deposition shall not certify the
 22 deposition transcript until after he or she has reviewed
 23 the final version of the formatted transcript. A court
 24 reporting firm, consortium, or other organization
 25 transmitting a court reporter's certified transcript
 shall not alter the format, layout, or content of the
 transcript after it has been certified.

24 *308-14-130(1) Offer arrangements on a case
 25 concerning court reporting services or fees to all parties
 on equal terms.